

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
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DLOS-09 OES-07 L-03 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11
PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-14 AID-05
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AGRE-00 ITC-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /174 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6386

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DEPT PASS TO COAST GUARD
E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO
SUBJECT: IMCO: REPORT OF 15TH SESSION OF TECHNICAL
COOPERATION COMMITTEE

1. SUMMARY: THE IMCO COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL
COOPERATION HELD ITS 15TH SESSION AT LONDON,
MAY 18 AND 19, 1978. AFTER RE-ELECTING CAPTAIN
TARDANA OF INDONESIA FOR ANOTHER TWO YEAR TERM
AS CHAIRMAN AND DR. VON KOPPENFELS OF THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC AS THE NEW VICE CHAIRMAN, THE COMMITTEE
EASILY WADED THROUGH ITS TWO DAY AGENDA IN ONE
DAY. TECHNICAL COOPERATION IS AN EVER INCREASING
ACTIVITY OF IMCO BUT THE COMMITTEE REITERATED
SEVERAL TIMES THAT ALL OF IMCO'S TECHNICAL
COOPERATION PROJECTS "ARE FINANCED BY VOLUNTARY
CONTRIBUTIONS EITHER THROUGH UNDP, UNEP, OR
SPECIAL FUNDS." THERE WAS NO ATTEMPT DURING THE
MEETING TO OBTAIN ASSESSED BUDGET FUNDING FOR
TECHNICAL COOPERATION. THE SPANISH SPEAKING COUN-
TRIES MADE A TRY FOR THE ACCELERATED INTRODUCTION
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OF SPANISH AS A WORKING LANGUAGE BY ARGUING
THAT TECHNICAL COOPERATION WOULD BE BETTER IM-
PLEMENTED BY THE USE OF SPANISH. THE U.S.
DELEGATE, SUPPORTED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL,
POINTED OUT THAT THE RATE OF INTRODUCTION OF
SPANISH WAS AN ASSEMBLY MATTER. IN A PRIVATE
CONVERSATION, THE SECRETARY GENERAL INFORMED THE

U.S. DELEGATE THAT THE U.S. DIRECTOR OF IMCO'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION, LEIGHTON VAN NORT, FORMERLY OF IO, WOULD BE PROMOTED TO D-2 WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF MAY 1, 1978. END SUMMARY

2. THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE (TCC) OF IMCO HELD ITS 15TH SESSION AT HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON MAY 18 AND 19, 1978. CAPTAIN TARDANA OF INDONESIA, WHO HAS BEEN CHAIRMAN SINCE TCC WAS INAUGURATED FOUR YEARS AGO, WAS REELECTED FOR ANOTHER TWO YEAR TERM. DR. VON KOPPENFELS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC MINISTRY OF COOPERATION WAS ELECTED VICE CHAIRMAN. THE AGENDA WAS AGREED TO WITHOUT CHANGE AND WAS EXPEDITIOUSLY COVERED. THERE WERE DELEGATIONS PRESENT FROM 21 MEMBERS PLUS UNDP, UNCTAD, AND UNIDO.

3. THE REPORT OF PAST AND PRESENT TECHNICAL COOPERATION SHOWED A GROWING LIST OF PROJECTS COMPLETED AND IN PROCESS. SINCE THE PRINTED REPORT WAS PUBLISHED AND CIRCULATED, THREE NEW LARGE SCALE PROJECTS HAVE BEEN ADDED. ONE IN THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC (SHIPBUILDING) AND TWO IN ALGERIA (MARITIME SAFETY AND TRAINING IN LNG CARRIERS). THE SECRETARY GENERAL IS SEEKING UNDP FUNDING FOR AN ADDITIONAL FOUR INTER-REGIONAL ADVISERS (ON UNCLASSIFIED

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TOP OF THE EIGHT ALREADY FUNDED BY UNDP) FOR MARITIME SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION. AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE U.S. DELEGATE, THE COMMITTEE REQUESTED COUNCIL TO GO ON RECORD STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REQUEST AND URGING MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO LEND THEIR SUPPORT WHEN THE MATTER IS DISCUSSED IN THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL IN JUNE.

4. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC DELEGATE CONSIDERED THE PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL ADVISERS WERE TOO SUMMARY. HE RECOMMENDED FULLER REPORTS SO THE TCC COULD EVALUATE THE ADVICE GIVEN AND THE RESPONSES BY THE LDC'S. THE U.S. DELEGATE SUPPORTED THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. THE SECRETARY GENERAL PROMISED THAT REPORTS WOULD BECOME MORE INFORMATIVE.

5. CHILE, ARGENTINA, AND MEXICO MADE AN APPEAL FOR ACCELERATED INTRODUCTION OF SPANISH AS A WORKING LANGUAGE OF IMCO, ARGUING THAT TC WOULD BE MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE IF THE DOCUMENTATION WERE

IN SPANISH. WITHOUT DIRECTLY OPPOSING THE LATIN-AMERICAN DELEGATES, THE U.S. DELEGATE POINTED OUT

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OES-07 L-03 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11 PA-02
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THAT THE METHOD OF INTRODUCTION OF SPANISH HAD BEEN DECIDED BY ASSEMBLY AND MUST OCCUR AS SCHEDULED BY ASSEMBLY. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TOOK THE SAME POSITION.

6. THE MARINE SAFETY CORPS, INTRODUCED BY THE U.K. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE U.S. INITIATIVES ON TANKER SAFETY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION (TSPP), WAS SPELLED OUT AS FOLLOWS: COUNTRIES IN A POSITION TO OFFER SUCH SPECIALIZED SERVICES WERE REQUESTED TO INFORM IMCO WHAT EXPERTISE THEY WERE PREPARED TO OFFER. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WERE TO INDICATE THE EXPERTISE THEY REQUIRED AND IMCO WOULD MATCH THE TWO. THERE WERE TO BE NO PERMANENT POSTS AT IMCO AND NO FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE IMCO ASSESSED BUDGET. DONOR COUNTRIES ARE TO FINANCE THE EXPERTS WHO WILL WORK AS IMCO OFFICIALS.

7. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL
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CAL COOPERATION PROJECTS HAVE BEEN PUT UP BY NORWAY, BELGIUM, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC, SWEDEN, AND DENMARK. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS NEGOTIATED AN AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY WHICH WILL SERVE AS A MODEL ARRANGEMENT FOR SUCH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC STATED THAT THEY REGRETTED THAT THERE WERE "SO FEW" CONCRETE REQUESTS FROM THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

8. THE UNCTAD OBSERVER SPOKE OF COOPERATION WITH IMCO AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, BUT HIS REMARKS GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF ANOTHER ATTEMPT AT ENCROACHMENT ON IMCO'S SPHERE OF ACTIVITY. THE U.S. DELEGATE, ASSISTED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL, MADE IT CLEAR FOR THE RECORD THAT UNCTAD'S ROLE WAS ECONOMIC AND THAT IMCO'S WAS TECHNICAL, AFTER WHICH BOTH SIDES WELCOMED THE COOPERATION.

9. THE UNIDO OBSERVER REFERRED TO THE MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN UNIDO AND IMCO.

10. THE TCC DEFERRED CONSIDERATION OF THE ONE APPLICATION REFERRED TO IT FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS, PENDING A DECISION BY COUNCIL ON THE NEW GUIDELINES FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS.

11. THE TCC REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL NEXT WEEK.

12. IN A LUNCHEON CONVERSATION, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL INDICATED, IN RESPONSE TO THE U.S. DELEGATE,

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GATE'S QUESTION, THAT LEIGHTON VAN NORT, DIRECTOR OF THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION DIVISION OF IMCO, FORMERLY OF IO, WILL BE PROMOTED TO D-2 SHORTLY AFTER NEXT WEEK'S COUNCIL MEETING, WITH RETROACTIVE EFFECT TO MAY 1, 1978. THIS WILL GIVE THE U.S. ONE OF THE FOUR POSITIONS IMMEDIATELY BELOW THE SECRETARY GENERAL. THERE IS NO DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL IN IMCO. U.S. DEL SENDS.

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